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Applicants:

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FERROELECTRIC FIBERS AND APPLICATIONS THEREFOR

## **Response and Amendment**

## ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

## **Claims Listing**

9. The face mask of claim 50 wherein said thermoplastic polymer fibers comprise multicomponent fibers having two or more components, each of which is comprised of a thermoplastic polymer,

wherein at least one component is comprised of a thermoplastic polymer; and wherein ferroelectric material is dispersed within at least one of said components forming said multicomponent fibers at a level of from about 0.01 to about 50 percent by weight of the fiber.

- 12. The face mask of Claim 9, in which the particles of the ferroelectric material have a longest dimension in a range of from about 10 nanometers to about 10 micrometers.
- 13. The face mask of Claim 9, in which the ferroelectric material is selected from the group consisting of perovskites, tungsten bronzes, bismuth oxide layered materials, and pyrochlores.
- 14. The face mask of Claim 13, in which the ferroelectric material is barium titanate.
- 15. The face mask of Claim 9, in which the multicomponent fiber is a bicomponent spunbond fiber.